

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 221208
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 COME-00 EB-08 L-03 ISO-00 /022 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

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FOL TEL SENT ACTION DOHA MANAMA FROM SECSTATE DTD 17 AUG 1977
QTE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP,QA

SUBJECT: LOOSENING OF BOYCOTT REGULATIONS IN QATAR

REF: (A) DOHA 628; (B) STATE 85087; (C) DOHA 456
(D) MANAMA 1779

REF:A) AMMAN 4914 (NOTAL) B) BAGHDAD 1405

1. APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S EXPLANATION REF (A) OF QATARI
RATIONALE FOR DELETING REQUIREMENT FOR CERTIFICATION THAT
VESSELS ARE NOT BLACKLISTED. QATAR'S ATTEMPT TO MAKE ITS
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DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS CONSISTENT WITH U.S. REGULA-
TIONS IN ORDER TO AVOID DISRUPTION OF U.S.-QATAR TRADE
RELATIONS IS MUCH APPRECIATED.

2. WHILE WE WELCOME QATARI INITIATIVE, AMENDED LANGUAGE
OF CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR VESSELS REPORTED REF (C)
TO EFFECT THAT "VESSEL IS NOT BANNED IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES"

DOES NOT AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF REPORTABLE BOYCOTT
CONDITION UNDER USDOC REGULATIONS CURRENTLY IN FORCE.

MOREOVER, GIVEN LANGUAGE OF NEW LAW, IT IS LIKELY THAT
USDOC IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS NOW IN PREPARATION WILL
PROHIBIT COMPLIANCE WITH REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION STATED
IN THESE TERMS. HOWEVER, DEFINITIVE RULING MUST AWAIT
FINAL ISSUANCE OF NEW REGULATIONS.

3. POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO HAVE CERTIFICATION
REQUIREMENT (PREFERABLY ISSUED BY MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
AND COMMERCE RATHER THAN BOYCOTT OFFICE) LIMITED TO (A)
NAME, FLAG, AND NATIONALITY OF VESSEL AND STATEMENT THAT
IT WILL NOT TRANSIT ISRAELI PORTS BEFORE CALLING IN
QATAR; AND (B) RESTRICTIONS PERTAINING TO VESSEL SAFETY
REQUIREMENTS, IMPROPER REGISTRATION, ETC. (PER REF (A)).
THIS ALTERNATIVE WOULD APPEAR TO MEET QATARI OBJECTIVES
REPORTED PARA 2 REF (A). -

4. EMBASSY REQUESTED ASCERTAIN QATARI REACTION TO
SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE APPROACH.

5. REGRET DELAY IN OUR RESPONSE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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